



Tennessee News Release

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

SWIFT HARVEST PACE BRINGS CROP PRODUCTION PICTURE INTO FOCUS

NASHVILLE, November 9, 2010 – Tennessee experienced hot, dry weather throughout most of the growing season this year, and the month of October was no exception. This continuing trend allowed virtually uninterrupted access to fields and pastures last month. As a result, harvest activities were in full gear all month long. Farmers were able to complete corn and tobacco harvests and came close to wrapping up cotton and soybeans. Results of a recent survey of farmers conducted by the National Agricultural Statistics Service showed the state's soybeans and corn prospects were lowered a bit while cotton remained unchanged. The November forecast, which is based on farmers' projections of final yields as of the first of the month, showed the following results: **Corn**, 115 bushels per acre, down 33 bushels from 2009; **Cotton**, 905 pounds per acre, up 62 pounds from a year earlier; and **Soybeans**, 32 bushels per acre, down 13 bushels from the previous year.

COTTON FORECAST UNCHANGED FROM OCTOBER

Tennessee's cotton production is forecast at 730,000 bales, up 48 percent from last year's production of 492,000 bales. Cotton yields are expected to average 905 pounds per acre, up 62 pounds from the previous year. Producers expect to harvest 387,000 acres, an increase of 107,000 acres from 2009. October was a good month for harvest. Hot, dry conditions allowed defoliant to work very well. As a result, the crop opened nicely and was relatively easy to pick rendering "scrapping" not much of a necessity. As of the week ending October 31, less than 5 percent of the crop remained unharvested.

SOYBEAN PRODUCTION FORECAST SLIDES AGAIN

Soybean production is forecast at 45.1 million bushels, down 23.7 million from last year's near record output. Soybean yields are forecast at 32 bushels per acre, down a bushel from last month and 13 bushels below 2009. The State's planted acreage is estimated at 1.45 million acres, down 8 percent from a year earlier. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 1.41 million, down 120,000 acres from a year ago. By October 31, an unprecedented 95 percent of the state's soybean acreage had been harvested. That is the highest harvest percentage at that time since records began in 1969. Yields were highly variable, even within a county.

CORN PRODUCTION BELOW 2010 LEVEL

Tennessee's corn production is forecast at 72.5 million bushels, down 17 percent from a year ago. Yields are expected to average 115 bushels per acre, 33 bushels below 2009 and 2 bushels below the October 1 forecast. The State's planted acreage is estimated at 710,000 acres, up 40,000 from last year. Farmers expect to harvest 630,000 acres for grain, also 40,000 more than last year. Harvest was wrapped up by mid-October as favorable harvest weather allowed virtually uninterrupted progress throughout late summer and early fall.

(OVER)

U.S. SUMMARY

Corn production is forecast at 12.5 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the October forecast and down 4 percent from last year's record production of 13.1 billion bushels. As of November 1, yields are expected to average 154.3 bushels per acre, down 1.5 bushels from the previous month and 10.4 bushels below last year's record of 164.7 bushels. Forecasted yields decreased from last month throughout much of the Corn Belt, with the biggest decline forecasted in Missouri, down 7 bushels per acre. The expected yield in South Dakota declined 5 bushels from last month while the Nebraska yield dropped 4 bushels per acre. Record high yields are forecast in California, Georgia, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. **Soybean** production is forecast at a record high 3.38 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the October forecast but up slightly from last year. Based on November 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 43.9 bushels per acre, down 0.5 bushel from last month and down 0.1 bushel from last year's record high yield. Compared with last month, yields are forecast lower or unchanged in all major-producing States except Delaware, Michigan, Mississippi, North Carolina, Texas, and Wisconsin. The largest decreases in yield from last month are expected in Kansas, Nebraska, New Jersey, and South Dakota, down 2 bushels each. If realized, the forecasted yields in Illinois, Louisiana, New York, and Wisconsin will be record highs and the forecasted yield in Michigan and North Dakota will tie the previous record high. Area for harvest in the United States is forecast at 76.8 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast but up 1 percent from 2009. **All cotton** production is forecast at 18.4 million 480-pound bales, down 2 percent from last month but up 51 percent from last year's 12.2 million bales. Yield is expected to average 821 pounds per harvested acre, up 44 pounds from last year. Upland cotton production is forecast at 17.9 million 480-pound bales, down 2 percent from last month but 52 percent above 2009. Producers in Texas and Oklahoma are expecting decreased yields from last month. American Pima production, forecast at 497,800 bales, was carried forward from last month.

CROP FORECASTS: TENNESSEE AND UNITED STATES, NOVEMBER 1, 2010, WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	Units	Harvested Acres		Yield Per Acre		Production	
		2009	Indicated 2010	2009	Indicated 2010	2009	Indicated 2010
		Thousands		Number of Units		Thousands	
TENNESSEE							
Apples	lb.	---	---	---	---	8,000	9,000
Corn for grain	bu.	590	630	148	115	87,320	72,450
Cotton ¹	lb.	280	387	843	905	492	730
Hay, All (excluding Alfalfa)	ton	1,900	1,900	2.20	2.30	4,180	4,370
Soybeans	bu.	1,530	1,410	45	32	68,850	45,120
Tobacco, All	lb.	21.6	22.3	2,313	2,112	49,960	47,090
Dark fire-cured	lb.	6.4	6.2	3,100	2,900	19,840	17,980
Burley	lb.	14.0	15.0	1,920	1,750	26,880	26,250
Dark air-cured	lb.	1.2	1.1	2,700	2,600	3,240	2,860
Winter Wheat	bu.	340	190	51.0	53.0	17,340	9,540
UNITED STATES							
Apples	lb.	---	---	---	---	9,914,900	9,413,500
Corn for grain	bu.	79,590	81,263	164.7	154.3	13,110,062	12,539,646
Cotton ¹	lb.	7,528.7	10,773.0	777	821	12,187.5	18,417.8
Hay, All (excluding Alfalfa)	ton	38,528	38,924	1.98	2.08	76,412	80,952
Soybeans	bu.	76,372	76,823	44.0	43.9	3,359,011	3,375,067
Tobacco, All	lb.	354.2	338.0	2,322	2,110	822,567	713,033
Dark fire-cured	lb.	16.2	15.6	3,281	3,080	52,990	48,055
Burley	lb.	101.9	97.9	2,109	1,897	214,896	185,695
Dark air-cured	lb.	5.8	5.6	2,938	2,761	17,040	15,460
Winter Wheat	bu.	34,510	31,749	44.2	46.8	1,524,608	1,485,236

¹ Production in 480-lb. net weight bales. U.S. production includes American-Pima cotton.

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